Mall, making moves
into Ellensburg
by Kevin Opsahl
Staff reporter

To those students and locals who thought that Ellensburg was just a sleepy truck stop town—think again.

The Triple L regional retail project, allowing a major shopping outlet in Ellensburg, was passed last month by the City Council in an effort to boost economic development. Efforts from Triple L and the city to attract potential retailers began this month. The master site plan was approved on Jan. 5.

"This is definitely progress in the right direction for what students want," said Keith James, vice president of equity and community service for the Associated Students of Central Washington University-Board of Directors (ASCWU-BOD).

The shopping outlet would use 70 acres of land, owned by the Lamb family. It would be situated at Ellensburg's west interchange across from University Auto off of US-97. The city, however, said it will be eight to 10 years before the mall is built and open to the public.

The RE/MAX realtor group will help Triple L contact bigger retailers such as Costco, Trader Joe's and Target, Maggie Potter, community relations for Triple L, said. Also, a Hampton Inn and IHOP will be open in the spring.

"We won't do any spec building until we get a retailer in," Potter said. "We hope they start paying attention ... most small retailers won't talk to you until you know who your anchors are."

There are more than 9,000 students enrolled full-time at Central Washington University. That figure, combined with the staff and faculty, makes up about half of Ellensburg's population, according to James. James said that most students leave Ellensburg to do shopping. The outlet malls in Union Gap and Wenatchee are the closest locations to Ellensburg for those looking for a major shopping experience.

James said the passage of the Triple L project would create a better relationship between Ellensburg and college students. The ASCWU-BOD spoke out in favor of the project because they thought it would give Central students more job opportunities and an alternative shopping experience from the west side.

According to James, the strip mall will help generate tax revenue when students spend money at local businesses. This "symbiotic" relationship benefits the local economy and consumer public, which is the underlying goal of the city council and local community groups.

James testified before the City Council on behalf of the ASCWU-BOD in December regarding the project. He met individually with local businesses to get their take on it. The ASCWU-BOD heard student feedback at their public meetings which took place in the Student Union and Recreational Center.

Community members were torn over the project. Those who voted yes said the project would make the city more attractive to residents, create business competition, and generate more revenue. Those who voted no were worried about congestion and the fact that there would no longer be any industrial zoned land at the west interchange.

Both the Kittitas County Economic Development Group and the Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce support the mall project. According to Ron Criddlebaugh, the chamber's executive director, 30 percent of the tax revenue generated from the mall will directly impact historic downtown Ellensburg.

"It's a great time to build one," Criddlebaugh said. "The construction of a retail center will provide a lot of new jobs. When you're hitting eight to 10 percent unemployment, it's nice to have some place for people to go to."

Cridlebaugh said he thought the mall could generate $150 million a year.

Other local organizations, like the Downtown Association and Citizens Against Urban Sprawl, did not think another big outlet would be good for the city, stating that it would make Ellensburg lose its small town charm.
Bad peanuts prompt total recall

by Matthew Hartmann
Staff reporter

A major case of salmonella has been reported nationwide in large batches of peanut butter that eventually will be used in products such as cookies and crackers. This has prompted a total recall of many peanut butter-based products across the United States.

According to Executive Chef Kevin ‘KC’ Camarillo, Central Washington University Dining Services, many products have been pulled from the shelves of the Cats C-Store, including Wal-Mart peanut butter crackers and Keebler crackers, as part of the recall orders. One item still on the menu that may be pulled soon is the peanut sauce at Pan Asia.

“My concern is to pay attention to the news to find out if there will be further recalls,” Camarillo said.

The recall affects foods that have been processed using peanut butter from a plant in Georgia, owned by Peanut Corporation of America (PCA). Jars of peanut butter are still okay, according to Camarillo.

“We deeply regret that this has happened,” said Stewart Parnell, owner and president of PCA in a press release by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). “Out of an abundance of caution, we are voluntarily withdrawing this product and contacting our customers. We are taking these actions with the safety of our consumers as our first priority.”

Local stores such as Fred Meyer have reacted to the recall with efficiency, according to Fred Meyer Manager Chris Warth.

“Information is released very fast,” Warth said. “Once the FDA issues the recall and it is out we pull the product.”

Warth said that the recall su ed for the peanut butter products was considered a “class one” recall, which means that all items must be taken off the shelf immediately. The other types of recalls include “class two,” in which items may be phased out of the shelves at a slower pace, and a general “product recall,” which occurs when a product has not been successful and the company decides that it doesn’t want to sell the product anymore.
Exclusive faculty restaurant opens on campus

by Megan Peters
Staff Reporter

The recent renovations to the 1928 Lombard Room have created a relaxing environment for its new inhabitant, Wellington’s, a new dining service that opened on Jan. 12 by Central Washington University’s Catering Department and Business Auxiliary Services.

The new dining experience is exclusively for Central faculty and staff, located in the Lombard Room behind the student resident hall Sue Lombard.

Wellington’s goal is to “…constantly offer the highest quality customer service, dining satisfaction and convenience to our faculty, staff, students, and guests of the University,” according to the dining services Web site.

Since the opening of the new restaurant, Wellington’s has served around 30-40 customers per day. According to Geri Palmer, senior catering manager, Wellington’s can seat approximately 80 lunch goers and they are hoping for those numbers to keep advancing.

“The idea of a faculty and staff dining center has been talked about for as long as I can remember.” Palmer said.

“Wellington’s welcomes all faculty, including retired faculty and alumni.”

Numerous surveys and an open house were done to receive feedback from faculty and staff on their opinions of the issue.

Steve Rittereiser, Assistant Vice President of Business Auxiliaries and Public Safety, said that they thought long and hard about the decision before putting anything into action.

Prior to the opening of this new restaurant, the beautiful Lombard Room was only used for weddings and conferences on the weekends or in the summer.

As Rittereiser explained, even though events were not being held during the week, it still costs money to keep the heating and lighting systems on.

Wellington’s was developed specifically for the needs of faculty and staff — whether it be for private business or job interviews.

The catering services offered to the university community include buffet or sit-down breakfasts, lunches, dinners, midmorning and afternoon breaks, as well as receptions with or without food service.

The catering planners are all available to work with customers to offer a menu designed to best suit specific events. Wellington’s offers full service catering to most campus locations.

“Primarily, Wellington’s was created because we wanted a complimentary experience for staff and faculty outside the [Student Union and Recreation Center],” said Rittereiser.

Homemade food is the cornerstone to all the dishes provided at Wellington’s. Palmer reassured that the burgers are never frozen, turkey substitutes are available, and that soups are made from scratch.

The staff of approximately 10 people works hard to keep a relaxing atmosphere.

Although Wellington’s is not open to Central students, students are welcome as guests of a staff or faculty member.

Obama triggers worry among firearm owners

by Gloria Stakey-Malieric
Staff reporter

Ellensburg hunters, shooters and the like, who are in the market for guns or ammo may not be finding it these days.

According to a CNN report in November, weapons dealers in much of the United States reported higher sales after Obama won the election.

The report states that buyers and sellers attribute the surge to worries that Obama would restrict firearm ownership, despite his support of gun rights.

According to a Bi-Mart employee who wishes to remain nameless, the rush of people buying guns and ammo was particularly heavy in the Elensburg store right after the election. People were basically buying anything they could get their hands on, the employee said.

Since then, the store has had a shortage of guns and ammo in stock.

Walking by the gun counter in the store the merchandise is a little light. Approximately 20 rifles stand up in the racks on the top shelf, but no other guns are in sight.

The shelves behind the cash register that the ammo boxes rest on however are not empty. In roughly 40 spaces for ammo, about 10 to 15 are vacant. Ammo that is open to grab off the shelves on the other side is mostly all there.

Bi-Mart employees say it is a material issue and it is nearly impossible to get some things in stock.

One employee said that because the demand is so high, manufacturers are behind.

Zach Schrank, Central Law and Justice major says he’s noticed the shortage.

“When people go to the store for something, they want it to be there,” Schrank said. “Thankfully, Bi-Mart hasn’t been short on the things I need, but if they were, I would be really frustrated.”

Some of the ammo Bi-Mart is short on includes powder, primers, and reloading bullets.

As far as guns, the store has had no problem getting the ones that they normally carry, but it is the special-order guns that are hard to get.

Bi-Mart’s shortage of stock started after the election and it continues with no word on when it will turn around.

City council highlights

by Kevin Opsahl
Staff reporter

* Amid the flooding catastrophe earlier this month, the Ellensburg City Council is still exploring ways they can prevent a future one.

* City Manger Ted Barley told the council that The Federal Emergency Management Agency went through various neighborhoods to inspect damage.

* Central Washington University football team offered to skip practice to help move sandbags to various homes and businesses, the team moved more than 200 pounds of sandbags out of one of the three locations.

* Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group and the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife made request for additional property for stream channel relocation.
Central Washington University's Army ROTC has been named the number one program in the nation by the United States Army Cadet Command for 2008.

"I think it's really awesome," CWU senior and battalion commander Aaron Blanchard said. "It's like winning in the Final Four during March Madness. To say the number one school in the nation is Central really is something, considering how small our school is."

The five main points Cadet Command focuses on begins with the Leadership Development Assessment Course (LDAC), how well the battalions do on recruiting missions, the program's retention of cadets, the commissioning of officers into the army after school, and finally, the utilization of scholarships to cadets within the program.

"There are 276 schools that would love to be in our shoes," Lt. Colonel Greg Solem said. LDAC is an annual event in which all juniors in the nation are assessed on their individual leadership abilities. Ranking ranges from "excellent", "satisfactory", to "needs improvement."

"Cadets are assessed on decision making in stressful situations," Master Sergeant Chris Ward said.

Last year's LDAC assessed 5,300 cadets in two garrison situations and four field situations. In garrison situations, cadets are thrust into leading up to 30 other cadets from all over the nation. Responsibilities in garrison situations focus on manning platoons around the barracks. Field situations are far more intense. Cadets lead up to 11 people to complete missions, such as destroying bunkers. These field operations feature real weapons and real explosions and can be very stressful.

"We were a lot better prepared than the majority of the schools," Blanchard said.

In addition to these physical and leadership skills challenges, Cadet Command assesses every cadet's G.P.A.

"Thirty-five of the cadets were on the dean's list and had a minimum of a 3.5 G.P.A.," Ward said.

Central's battalion will receive the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America Award for its ability to exceed in recruiting, retention and their number of lieutenants the program turned out in 2008.

Both the Yakima Herald and NPR has praised the CWU battalion on their achievements. A ceremony celebrating the prestigious Order of the founders and Patriots of America Award will be held this spring for Central's ROTC achievements.

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Dean's green festivals

by Michael Ingram
Staff reporter

For the first time in 20 years there will be large-scale exhibits and the Museum of Culture and Environment for the community to enjoy in DeAn Hall.

Everyone is encouraged to share their thoughts to help in the design Thursday of every month, beginning Feb. 5 and ending June 4.

"We're basically inviting people to come in and help design a story for the museum," said Dr. Bill Wood Interim Director of the Museum of Culture and Environment.

Central Washington University's applied public relations class (DQM 470) has teamed up with Central's new Museum of Culture and Environment to present the Forever Green Festivities. Festivities will be held the week of March 2 and will be free of events.

"We're hoping to draw in people from around the community and university to enjoy the week of festivities," said Tiffany Waters, graduate assistant to the Museum of Culture and Environment.

Monday March 2 will be air and water day. The museum will be teaming up with the Environmental Resource Management Association (ERMA), in addition to ERMA, the Carbon Reduction Task Force will be creating a report on Central's carbon footprint. Tuesday is food day. This will feature local farmers and their ideas regarding sustainable and organic foods.

Wednesday is energy day and Central will be hosting a native reggae band brought in by the Native American Student Association (NASA). Puget Sound Energy (PSE) will also be making an appearance for energy day and will be discussing wind farming.

Thursday will mark the beginning of transportation day and will focus on electric cars. There are also plans for a scooter to be offered up in a raffle.

At the end of the week a party will be held with music and food, according to Patrick Detchen, lecturer of communications.

On Friday the Forever Green Affair will host a fashion show to wrap up the week. There will be a green fashion show with tickets selling for $25. Proceeds of this benefit will go to the museum.
A lesson in word choice

Kayla Schroader
Editor-in-Chief

I vividly recall my first day on the Observer, when I sat quietly at the back of the classroom with knees knocking at the mention of deadlines and what seemed like infinite responsibility. Our editor in chief was 4-foot-tall Kathryn Lake. She warned us that her size would have no bearing on her ability to manage our team. She was right. I respected Kathryn, but never did I think I would be in her management position. That was almost two years ago.

Last week was the third week of winter quarter and my second edition of publishing the Observer as editor in chief. It was a dreadfully long week. After the second edition of the Observer hit newsstands, I was informed of some outside concerns as well as a few retractions I would have to make. To be honest, it broke my spirits, but humbled me. Now, more than ever, I appreciate the considerable number of edits from the copy desk, input from my design guru, the critical eye of my photographers and the talent of our graphic assistant (especially after transitioning to a new design program this quarter). Furthermore, I hope to recruit a math student to approve future statistics and other informative graphs.

I am grateful to have such a committed and hardworking editing staff this quarter as well as educated readers. The Observer would not be possible without their dedication. Who helps uncover corruption within the university, or features the senior professor who receives minimal recognition for years of hard work? Who details sporting events missed because students are buried in homework? Who helps pass the time between classes when students are bored out of their minds but sick of grueling homework assignments?

In my position as editor in chief, I am responsible for producing the front page of the Observer and the two opinion pages that incorporate my own, weekly editorial. Last week, I made the executive decision to write about President Obama and my own political stance. I would have rarely spoken out about such issues before, considering that my opinion as a journalist is most often a consciously unbiased one. However, in this case, I felt my balanced criticism of the presidency was an opinion in and of itself. I do not regret the opinions I stated.

I do however feel the need to apologize for any misinterpretation surrounding my description of our president. I do not wish to repeat my offense by restating it now, as I never meant to display insensitivity in the first place. I am thankful for America’s ability to finally elect a bi-racial president, which represents a big step towards equality and respect, which sadly many of our ancestors lacked.

As I discussed recently in a media and society course, I personally feel that my generation is less aware of issues regarding race than our predecessors. We were raised in a time when social segregation was on the decline. We currently live in a country that embraces diversity and rich cultures throughout the world. There is no room for separation within our nation and for those who are still clinging to a racist past, they are rapidly becoming the new minority.

While I would love to rewind time and revise my editorial one last time, it is obviously out of the question. In sitting down at my computer to write my Observance for issue three, I can’t seem to sidestep these circumstances. So here is my editorial, integrated with my letter of apology. As I told my staff, I hope they can learn from my mistake, because in the real world, others will be far less forgiving. If anything, I am optimistic that this unfortunate event spurred some controversy and hopefully made a few readers think about my ignorance. That’s what we’re trying to do after all, highlight the issues and learn from our mistakes.

My eyes have been opened through this experience. I acknowledge my responsibility to maintain sensitivity toward all demographics, in all situations; even if this means rewording a description I may have overlooked. I don’t consider myself a racist by any means, but enlightenment is the cure for ignorance and we could all use a little enlightenment from time to time.

I want to thank all students and faculty who wrote letters expressing concern about my editorial. You will and have helped me to grow as an individual and professional.

Observer

The editorial views expressed are those of the writers and not necessarily the views of the newspaper or its student body, the faculty and administration and are certainly not to be considered as official views of Central Washington University.

Parking hogs, keep it movin’

by Nicole Weinheimer
Staff reporter

I am without a doubt one of the laziest people alive when it comes to physical activity. I’d rather invest in a Wii. Bowling sure is a work-out right? It’s no wonder that I was given numerous eye rolls and “whatwards” from friends and family when I expressed an interest in adding a couple trips to the gym each week as my New Year’s Resolution.

Since I only live a few blocks from the SURC, one would think that I walk to the gym. But being the way I am, I decided driving was the only way this gym-thing would work out.

So, I hopped in my car and headed down the road only to be met by a full parking lot. Because this was the first of what would hopefully be many trips to the Recreation Center I sucked it up, parked in an inconvenient back lot and dealt with the cold. Not bad right?

Well day two rolled around and again the lot was full. No big deal, I thought, “I can walk, its good for me.”

By day three I had begun to notice that the cars were looking freakishly the same and by day four it was all too obvious that these were in fact the exact same cars. Suddenly my enemy was not the treadmill, it was all the annoying cars filling the stalls of the best lot on campus.

So if you live in the dorms and commonly leave your car in a parking space for weeks at a time in between your trips back home consider parking somewhere else. You’re driving everyone else who needs the lot crazy.

Retraction

The statistics in the info box in last week’s issue with the front page story about President Obama’s inauguration, were incorrect. The eight states listed were taken from the Democratic vote only.
Roommate Etiquette 101: surviving the college years

The first time I lived with anyone other than my family was when I moved to Central, and I think that holds true for many students here. In the past two years, my experience with roommates has been all over the board, between both extremes. I've had some good ones, and a few... well, not so good ones.

When you are living in such a small space with upwards of three other people, you learn that roommates can really make or break your college experience. So here are some tips for you to help make the most of your experience.

1) Clean up after yourself. It sounds pretty simple but is often forgotten. You make a mess, you pick it up. However, it is much easier to forget to take the garbage out when you don't have good ol' Mom yelling at you to do it, but come on! Your roommates aren't your mom, so they won't pick it up after you and I doubt they want to remind you three times to help out. No one wants to live in an old dorm room that smells like week-old fast food or dirty laundry. Nasty.

2) Compromise! The world does not revolve around you. Big surprise, I know, but small compromises will get you a long way. So you want to listen to your music, but your roommate needs some quiet time to study. Sure they could go to the library, but if they don't want to I'm sure you have a pair of headphones lying around to use. Also, if you like to go to bed at 10 p.m. but your roommate stays up until 2 a.m. then create a lights-out time that is a compromise.

3) Be reasonable about visits from those 'special friends.' Visits from significant others can cause serious conflicts between roommates. Never invite anyone to sleep over unless it has been OK'd with your roommate in advance. Try to devise a system to keep roommates aware at inappropriate times when you are in need of some one-on-one time with a boyfriend or girlfriend. Only do this if the roommate is comfortable with the idea, and NEVER get physical with your partner when your roommate is around, even if he or she is asleep! It is their living space too. Allow them to feel comfortable in their own home.

4) Share the household chores and responsibility. As we all know, cleaning is not a fun activity for most people. I don't mean that students should be cleaning their dorm room top to bottom every day, but occasionally sweeping or vacuuming is a nice gesture. Even pitching in for toilet paper or other household supplies every now and then is a plus!

5) The Golden Rule: Treat others the way you would like to be treated. If someone wants some peace and quiet at night when sleeping, don't leave the music blasting when roommates are trying to sleep. If students don't want their roommates to go through their personal things without asking, do not do that to their property either. Overall, just be respectful and polite, even if a new roommate is not an instant best friend. Give it time.

College is stressful enough without the constant nagging and worrying of frustrating roommate issues and confrontations. So, make an effort to be a good roommate, and I'm sure the other roommate will reciprocate the effort.

Ingredients
- 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack/Monterey mix
- 4 cup crumbled Feta
- 2 grated parmesan and mozzarella
- 2 cups shredded Monterrey Jack/Cheddar
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 2 tablespoons bread crumbs
- 1 (16-ounce) package macaroni
- 5 tablespoons unsalted butter, plus more to butter baking dish
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 2 cups shredded Monterey Jack and Mozzarella mix, the reserved bacon, and parsley. Continue to stir until all cheese is melted.

Directions
Preheat oven to 450 F and butter a glass baking dish. If you don't have a glass baking dish, a tin one will work just as well.

Bring a large pot of water to a boil and add salt. Cook the macaroni according to package directions and drain. To keep the pasta from sticking together add a little bit of olive oil or vegetable oil to coat the pasta.

In a large heavy pot, saute the bacon until crisp. Remove bacon with a slotted spoon and set aside. Sauté the onion in the bacon drippings until soft. Add the 5 tablespoons of butter to the onion mixture and melt the butter, stirring with a wooden spoon.

Using a whisk, add the flour, and stir constantly until well mixed with the fat (you're making a roux). Gradually add the milk and cream whisking constantly.

Let the mixture come to a simmer and stir frequently for 15 minutes. Working quickly, mix in the all the cheeses (except 1/2 C. of the Monterey Jack and Mzzarella mix), the reserved bacon, and parsley. Continue to stir until all cheese is melted.

Add the cooked noodles to the cheese mixture to coat. Add the noodle mixture to the baking dish. Mix the remaining cheese and bread crumbs together and sprinkle on top of the noodles.

Bake for approximately 15 to 20 minutes or until bubbling and golden brown. Remove from oven when done and let rest for 5 minutes.
Most students learn about their major from textbooks alone. They hear about what is out there and what they may someday be able to experience, but Central Washington University’s Fashion Club gets hands-on experience through club activities and occasional trips.

"Last year we did a ‘Project Runway’ activity where the students went to the Dollar Store in teams," Andrea Eklund, professor of fashion merchandising, said. "They had two minutes to grab all they could and then a half hour to create a new garment."

The Fashion Club meets at 8 p.m. every Wednesday and does other activities, including creating new garments out of old ones and movie nights with ornament painting and cookie decorating.

"A lot of students in the club right now are freshmen and transfer students, so these activities are a great way to get them involved right away and a great way for them to learn from each other," Eklund said.

Other than club activities, the Fashion Club also takes trips. Last spring break they went to the “Magic” event in Las Vegas where they went to fashion shows and did critiques, talked to people and were able to buy a lot of the samples that the different vendors had.

"The trips are a great way to see what else is out there," said Lana Hetchkiss, senior fashion major and vice president of the Fashion Club.

During this upcoming spring break the Fashion Club will be going to New York through the company "Cover New York."

"In Las Vegas all of the activities were at one place, but in New York we will be visiting 12 different companies and places with a tour guide to explain everything we are seeing," Eklund said.

They plan to make trips to the museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology, trend companies, and to meet the designer teams for Tommy Hilfiger, Nanette Lepore and Liz Claiborne.

In order to take part in the New York trip, the members must apply, cover the cost of the trip and be an active member, which entails participating in at least 85 percent of club activities and meetings.

"I’m going because I know it’s going to be a great experience," said Christina Libbing, senior fashion major and secretary of The Fashion Club. "Anyone who has had the opportunity to travel knows how eye-opening of an experience it can be. I don’t think many people understand much beyond retail when it comes to fashion and it’s so interesting."

In order to help pay the costs for New York and to raise money for club activities, the Fashion Club will be holding different fundraisers, such as selling roses in the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC) for Valentine’s Day, selling See’s Candies, hosting a date night and hosting a guest speaker.

"It’s important to know that you don’t have to know a lot about fashion to get involved," Eklund said. "I have a lot of education and PR majors in the club, as well as fashion merchandising. If you think it’s fun and want to get involved, you can."
New shows
PREMIERE ON
The 'Burg

With the new year in full swing, Central Washington University’s student-run radio station, 88.1 The ‘Burg, will be bringing new content to radios around campus and throughout Ellensburg. With an array of new shows, planned live broadcasts in the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC) and even a date auction, The ‘Burg is gearing up for a busy year.

“We have tons of new shows going on-air and a lot coming up in the next few months,” said Nick Songsangcharntara, post baccalaureate journalism major and the Promotions Director for The ‘Burg.

There are four new shows that have premiered in 2009 on The ‘Burg that Songsangcharntara is particularly excited about.

The Nightly Nerdy News
With Dr. Howser and Jimmy-Dean
Monday 8 p.m. – 10 p.m.

“The Nightly Nerdy News” will attempt to bring something new to Central airwaves by featuring news and commentary on anything “nerd.” Content can range from World of Warcraft, to the newest comic book movie adaptation, to even Dungeons and Dragons.

“We are trying to have an avenue for people into video games, movies, comics or anything related to pop culture,” said Patrick O’Brien, aka Dr. Howser, senior history education major. “There is a huge untapped demographic out there.”

In addition to encouraging listeners to call in and discuss their hobbies, O’Brien will be playing “geeky” music and what he calls “nerdcore,” a style of hip-hop that is all about nerd fandom.

“I’ll even play theme songs that people will remember, like last week I played the ‘Karate Kid’ theme,” O’Brien said. “We don’t take ourselves too seriously.”

Besides being one of Ellensburg’s only outlets for anything “nerd,” “The Nightly Nerdy News” should be a fun listen.

“We just want to put a show on that’s good to listen to,” O’Brien said.

Lovers Lane
With Janie Jones and Nikki Justice
Monday 10 p.m. – 12 a.m.

“Lovers Lane” will be Central’s version of ‘LoveLine,’ a show dedicated to giving an outlet where listeners can call in and voice concerns or questions regarding relationships and love.

“We got the idea from ‘LoveLine’ and the fact that The ‘Burg had a show like this a couple years ago,” said Megan O’Malley, aka Janie Jones, senior print journalism major. “We wanted to bring it back.”

“Lovers Lane” will be open to all types of relationship questions, as long as the content is suitable for radio.

“We will do our best to answer any questions but we are not trained medically,” O’Malley said. “If there is a question we can’t answer, we will pass it on to someone who can.”

DJs Janie Jones and Nikki Justice will try and focus on love-based songs, while still using The ‘Burg’s catalog of music.

“We’re going to play some love songs and even do dedications,” O’Malley said.

So why should anyone listen to “Lovers Lane?”

“It should be an interesting show and no other radio stations have a ‘LoveLine’ type show,” O’Malley said. “It’s also really helpful to get peer advice sometimes.”

Study Hall
With Little Nicky, Dr. Howser, Kelly Anne and Sunny Daye
Friday 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

“Study Hall” is brand new, interactive show that will be hosted live from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. in the Student Union and Recreation Center Pit that will feature live contests and require full student participation.

“With this we are trying to have a show that’s a great kickoff for the weekend and gets the students pumped up,” said Nick Songsangcharntara, aka Little Nicki.

The DJs promise unique fun challenges, music and what he calls “nerdcore,” a style of hip-hop that is all about nerd fandom.

“House Special” features an eclectic mix of electronica, house, and trance music mixed by DJ Billy Shears.

“I’m really into the feel and scene behind electronica,” said Shears, freshman film and video studies major, when asked about why he started the show. “I’m trying to carve out and develop some kind of scene here in Ellensburg.”

Shears will use his personal music collection and resources available through The ‘Burg.

“The first few shows, I’ll be playing music entirely from my collection,” Shears said. “I’ll also be working with companies like Astralwerks and Lift.”

He plans to include hits from the Chemical Brothers and Groove Armada and mainstream electronica-infused music.

Shears promises not only good music, but also fun giveaways.

“I have some prize packages lined up, which will include highlighters and glow sticks,” Shears said. “Who doesn’t want a free glowstick?”

Other newly featured shows on The ‘Burg:

Burg Beats
6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesdays
Central Jazz Experience
12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays

For more information on these shows and others go to www.881theburg.com
Cat Pack promotes school spirit

by Erica Spalti
Staff reporter

There are seven seconds left and the Central Washington University Wildcats are on the offense; the one thing that the players need is to hear the roar of the crowd and know that their fellow Wildcats are behind them.

This is exactly what the Cat Pack is here for.

"This is going to be good for the spirit of the school and the athletes," said David Wood, Student Athletic Advising Committee Member. "As an athlete you don’t like to see empty seats. The more fans and more spirit, it makes you play better."

The Cat Pack is a new student fan club on campus that is trying to promote school spirit.

This group gives students opportunities at athletic events that they normally wouldn’t have.

Students are guaranteed the best seating. The Cat Pack also participates in pre-game parties before selected home football and basketball games.

"We are going to be offering a text-messaging service to inform people about game updates," said Delany Lafond, executive president of the Residence Hall Association.

"This is exactly what the Cat Pack is here for. The Cat Pack is a new student fan club on campus that is trying to promote school spirit."

"It is really a way to unite all of Central Washington University," Lafond said. "Everyone has Wildcat spirit."

With school spirit dwindling, these super fans feel that the Cat Pack will help people get more involved.

"The Cat Pack is an opportunity for students to get involved and be more supportive of athletes, and be more enthusiastic. Also to have fun," Wood said.

Bon Iver delivers more haunting harmonies

Matt Robinson
Special to Observer

On Jan. 20, Bon Iver, aka Justin Vernon, released “Blood Bank,” a four song Extended Play (EP) that disqualified him from being a “one-hit wonder.”

While not so much a departure from his debut of “Emma, Forever Ago,” Iver shows that there can still be originality in a solo acoustic act.

The EP welcomes the listener with the title track, “Blood Bank.” It only takes about a minute before anyone familiar with his style will say, “Thank God, this guy is for real.”

Iver’s lyrics tell a tale of a guy and girl trapped in a car and suggests a deeper story lying in the secrets she keeps.

“That secret that you know, but don’t know how to tell, it’s in your honor, and it teases your head,” coos Iver early in the song.

The lyrics don’t plunge into the depths of these secrets, instead listeners get wondrous imagery of winter, another trademark of Iver’s.

The next track, “Beach Baby,” continues a theme of alliteration. It has even simpler lyrics than “Blood Bank” with a guitar playing Hawaiian themed tunes. The song’s theme is about escaping normal life for the exotic and mysterious.

“When you’re out, tell your lucky one to know that you’ll leave. But you don’t lock when you’re fleeing; I’d like to not hear keys.”

From the lyrics both people involved seem to be benefiting from one’s departure, reflecting on the potential truth that most like to ignore; an empty relationship’s end is often good for both parties involved.

“Baby’s” about making babies. Enough said.

The EP closes with “Woods,” the longest song on the album. Iver makes an artistic choice to experiment with Auto-Tune. Think Kanye’s “808s and Heartbreak.”

Utilizing the seismic, almost falsetto vocal recording style, Iver seems set on over-emphasizing the very sparse lyrics, which are about finding catharsis through isolation. It’s impossible to not get absorbed in the songs before suddenly realizing it’s over.

This brief materialization of fantastic acoustic songs will be very difficult to “overplay.”
Weekly Open Mic Night rocks Grant’s

by Amy Thompson
Staff reporter

With low lighting, catchy beats, and smiling faces, Open Mic Night at Grant’s Pizza Place offered hours of fun and musical entertainment on Jan. 21.

At Open Mic Night people are welcome to perform or play whatever music they prefer, leaving the opportunity for creativity wide open.

“Anything goes, we’ve even had comedy acts before,” said Luke Holtz, Open Mic Night coordinator. “It’s nice when all the booths are filled and the tables are filled; it’s a good time.”

At Grant’s, the pool tables, blue upholstered booths and arcade game area provide for a relaxed atmosphere. There is always a variety of music playing.

“I like it all because we basically have all kinds of music,” said Rodney Turner, drummer and percussionist at Open Mic Night. “Acoustics [music], we have a lot of classic rock, and then the heavy metal bands. Open Mic Night is basically the only place where Central college musicians can show their skills.”

With an audience of more than 25 people, there was applause and laughter after every jam session. People were bobbing their heads and tapping their feet to the beats of the music throughout the night.

“I like the atmosphere at Grant’s,” said Andrea Archer, a senior majoring in exercise science. “It’s a good place to go and see people in Ellensburg, it’s fun.”

At times, the crowd seemed almost hypnotized by the pulsing drums and guitar solos. Often there was not a specific song being played and the audience watched as music was being made before their eyes.

“Playing together is kind of like cooking, you know,” Holtz said. “You never know how it’s going to turn out.”

The crowd seemed to particularly enjoy vocal performances combined with instruments. Newcomer to El­ lensburg from New Jersey, Jeff Lopert, performed several hip hop songs that the crowd applauded.

“I like how they don’t restrict anybody,” Lopert said. “They let you be you.”

Open Mic Night has been happening for more than eight years, with Holtz being the coordinator for three years. Bill and Kathy Grant are the owners of Grant’s and without their support, Open Mic Night would not be possible. They deserve an extended thanks, said Turner.

Open Mic Nights are every Wednesday at 8 p.m. at Grant’s Pizza Place. Those 18 and older are welcome from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., but only those 21 and older after 9 p.m.

According to Holtz, the audience is mainly college students, but people from nearby towns come to join in or just to watch and experience the music too.

Starting at 8 p.m. Open Mic Night happens every Wednesday at Grant’s Pizza Place. Those 18 and older are welcome from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., but only those 21 and older are allowed after 9 p.m.

Check out our weekly updated content online at www.cwu.edu/~observer
The Tav serves new food, drinks

by Amber Ramento
Staff reporter

The Tav, located off of Fourth Avenue and Main Street, has served only beer and wine for the past 41 years. As of the new year, The Tav is now under new ownership, Central Washington University professor John Moawad, remarked Christopher, who will perform vocal jazz and bass performance major. "At the end of the day, all the college groups perform and that's when it's not just a trip out of high school."

Christopher has volunteered several times in college, one of the northwest's founding fathers of vocal jazz, retired Central professor John Moawad. "It was like a fun day just to go out of class and perform," said Marina Christopher, vocal jazz bassist and sophomore bass performance major.

"I have been coming to The Tav since the late 60's," Ronald Elkins, Central Washington University professor said. "The Tav's quality hasn't changed over time, they have a good selection of beers and the food is consistently good." Elkins has also worked for Leinbach, when he owned Beef Eaters a while back.

As far as the new food menu goes, everything has been on the menu for a few months, now. "The new drink menu will hopefully bring more people in late at night and keep it a fun atmosphere," Will Wheel-er, assistant kitchen manager, said.

Not many people know about the new liquor license and drink menu that The Tav has introduced. Also, they hope that once more people find out, that business will increase and it will get busier later in the night.

Pete Los/Observer
Server Erin Pogue, serves beer to patrons on Tuesday, Jan. 27 at The Tav located on Fourth Avenue and Main Street in Ellensburg.

Festival jazzes up some local vocals

by Mimi Oh
Staff reporter

Central Washington University will get a lot younger this Friday.

Six hundred high school students will descend upon campus for a jazz festival tomorrow.

From 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., 30 high school groups will come to the John Moawad Invitational Jazz Festival.

The big concert halls are in rooms 174 and 175.

The 54-year-old, bi-annual festival draws high school, junior high and middle school students to perform.

This year, guest trombone player Stan Bock will play.

Bock’s distinguished career, according to the festival Web site, includes a Grammy nomination. It also includes Bock staying in the radio top 100 nationally for radio airplay for almost one year.

No tickets are needed at 5:30 p.m., according to festival director and jazz studies director Chris Bruya.

Doors will open to concert goers at 5:30 p.m. Attendees will be treated to Bock and the top ranked ensembles.

The festival tries to rotate the type of instrument used by the guest artist.

"It was like a fun day just to get out of class and perform," said Marina Christopher, vocal jazz bassist and sophomore bass performance major.

"At the end of the day, all the college groups perform and that’s when it’s not just a trip out of high school."

Christopher has volunteered several times in college, and performed during her high school years.

Vocal jazz performers practice four times per week.

Christopher, who will perform in the Vocal Jazz 1 set and approximately 75 to 100 volunteers will also help students stay on schedule.

The festival is named for one of the northwest’s founding fathers of vocal jazz, retired Central professor John Moawad.

Moawad, remarked Christopher, is very old school and uses terms like “those cats.”

"It’s a whole interconnected web of music educators that inspire each other in the north west area," Christopher said.

Bock went to college with Central trumpet professor John Harbaugh and met director of jazz studies, Chris Bruya while teaching in Portland.

Bruya started festival preparations in fall.

He mailed three to four hundred schools and music directors invitations and did Web site updates. He also updated the entry page form.

Vocal Jazz performer and volunteer Jason Prindle, junior music education major and music LLC resident assistant, explained that the high school students will take cues to polish their behavior while at Central.

Prindle will be watching the room where the visitors stow their belongings.

He may also escort students.

This is Prindle’s sixth festival.

"It takes the cooperation of the high schoolers too... they have to adjust their attitude, so to speak. ... Everyone sees them rush to lunch at noon," Prindle said.

Central got its start as a vocal jazz hotspot after a Central group was invited to a national conference in Dallas.

In the last 15 years, the festival has edged towards the educational side.

Last year, reminiscences Bruya, a snow delayed a west side group. Bruya maneuvered them into a later time.

“We do it for educational potential, but we also do it for recruiting potential, because we cannot survive as a music department without quality students,” Bruya said.

the SCOOP

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<tr>
<td>Sherman Alexie</td>
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<td>Family Crest and Motto Day</td>
<td>10 a.m.-5 p.m.</td>
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<td>Winter Poker Tournament</td>
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<td>Flute Choir Recital</td>
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The Wildcat women played tough, but they still ended up losing both their games at home to the Montana State Billings Yellowjackets and on the road against the Saint Martin's Saints.

Against the Yellowjackets, Jenn Jacobs, sophomore guard, had 17 points and Hilary Tanneberg, senior center, added 15, but it wasn't enough to end their losing streak. The Wildcats lost their fifth straight game 60-71 on Thursday, Jan. 22 at Nicholson Pavilion.

After this loss the Wildcats fell to 3-12 overall and 0-4 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC).

The Yellowjackets improved to 11-5 and 3-2 in the conference. Jacobs was 7-13 from the field and 3-5 from the three-point range. Twelve points came in the second half. Tanneberg was 6-10 from the field and added nine rebounds. No other Wildcats scored in double figures.

After leading by one with 13:34 left in the first half, the Wildcats never led again. Their biggest deficit was 19 with 12:14 left in the game.

Down by as much as 18 with 8:22 left in the game, the Wildcats made a valiant effort to come back, holding the Yellowjackets without a field goal for the last two minutes.

Not even the near half-court shot by Jacobs at the buzzer could help as they lost by 11.

"I think the difference is we only had four turnovers the second half, which has been the issue with this team, and then having people want to shoot the ball," Wildcat Head Coach Jeff Whitney said. "Once we do those two things, we are a much better team ... which we did the second half. We bounced the ball, we rebounded extremely well. We out rebounded them the second half. That second half is how we need to play from now on."

It was a sloppy game, control wise, as each team committed many turnovers, the Wildcats with 19 and the Yellowjackets with 17. The Wildcats committed only four turnovers in the second half.

"Hopefully we can just keep the turnovers to a minimum because that's been our weakest point this season so far, and just make our shots we need to make," Jacobs said. "I think we will bounce back. We work hard, our effort is there. It's just the second half. It just hurts us so hopefully we can get better with that."

The Wildcats shot 36.5 percent from the field while the Jackets shot 44.8 percent.

"Hopefully we can take the momentum [of the second half]," Tanneberg said. "We changed up our practices, we have changed up our attitudes and our minds, so hopefully we can keep this momentum of the second half going and hit the second
Men's bball loses blowout against WWU

by Laura Mittieder
Staff reporter

On Jan. 24 the Wildcats tipped off with arch rivals the Western Washington University Vikings with full force, but fell short when it came to the final score of 75-65. The loss brought the ten-game winning streak at home to a sudden stop.

The Wildcats started off strong with a six-point lead with 13:28 remaining in the first half. With four players in double figures, the Vikings quickly tied the game with their unstoppable shooting to 15-15. Senior guard Jake Beitinger stillable shooting to 15-15.

Central's home opening contest, the Vikings took control with 13:27 remaining in the final period. The Wildcats were just hitting the 41.5 percent mark. It was hard to put a lid on the determined Vikings.

Central went into halftime with their second highest halftime losing score this season, 52-56. Central came back to play an entire second half of catch-up to the Vikings but were unsuccessful in their attempts to take back control.

Central just could not seem to stop the hands of Western Washington. In the final 2:58 the Wildcats were outscored 30-13 in the game. Western went home with a 20 point victory. "It hurts, especially at home," said sophomore forward/center Chris Sprinker. According to Sprinker, the team needs time to physically and mentally rest before their next game. The Wildcats have completed the two toughest traveling games.

With a quick turnaround from a face-off against Bilings, Montana to come back and play their team rival was a hard task, to do. With Western dominating the boards, out-rebounding Central 40-39 and making 60 percent in field gold shooting upped to Central's 41.5 percent.

"Rebounds were a big factor, but not a deciding factor," said Sprinker.

This was clearly a shooting game with Western having all five starters scoring in double figures.

"Western made a lot of their baskets," said Sprinker. "The shot we took didn't show."

With a quick turnaround next game.

"It is not good for batting," Storey said. "Six through eight pitchers are pretty solid."

One important element of batting is the gripping strength. Storey set up two gas heaters at the back of the batting cage before the players came to the baseball field. Players made their hands warm and hit balls in turn for one hour. "I feel pretty good," Storey said. "This team is a better batting team overall [than the last team]."

Storey seems to focus on offense this season and expects players to hit a lot. Storey considers third baseman Frank Donangelo, to be one of the key players for offense in the new season.

Last season, Donangelo appeared in all 51 games and ranked second on the team with a .349 batting average, adding 20 doubles and 13 home runs. "I am excited to go to California," Donangelo said. "Weather would be warmer. I'm looking forward to the opening game."

However, the Wildcats lost talented senior players last year.

"We don't have Jamie Nilsen who graduated, Tyler Levin also left. They were the top players of the conference last year," Storey said. "Jamie Nilsen, Central's shortstop last year, ranked first on the team with a .468 batting average, adding 20 doubles and 13 home runs in 51 games."

He signed a free agent contract with the Kansas City Royals last year. "New guys have joined since fall," Storey said. "They hit balls really well, like Ricky McKinney and Michael Stubblefield."

But what the coach is concerned about is defense.

"That is probably the biggest question mark right now," Storey said. "We have three weeks before we open up in California. That's gonna be a big thing.

Central's home opening game against Saint Martin's University will be on Friday, Feb. 27 at the Central baseball field.
Andrew Haggarth  
Staff reporter

The 2008-09 NFL season and postseason has certainly not been short on surprises, and the magic ride may not be over yet.

The Cardinals are flying high and show no signs of slowing down. Throughout this postseason, the Cardinals have won by an average of 11 points, including a 20-point win over the Panthers.

Against the Carolina Panthers, the Steelers scored at least 30 points, winning the game in the playoffs. The Steelers' running game was in a large frame, he still manages to evade the defense - to destroy everyone in their path. There is no reason to believe their recent success will cease now, with the team on the verge of accomplishing something the franchise has never even come close to.

For the second time in four years, the Pittsburgh Steelers have made it to the Super Bowl. After impressive wins over San Diego and Baltimore, I have no doubt they will beat the Arizona Cardinals to capture their sixth Super Bowl championship.

Ben Roethlisberger has proven they have put during the playoffs. No player in the history of the NFL playoffs has racked up more receiving yards in one postseason than Larry Fitzgerald. The Steelers are favored by seven points heading into their showdown with the Cardinals, a margin the Cardinals are sure to overcome. The Arizona Cardinals are currently the most dangerous team in the NFL. They have put everything together this postseason - passing, rushing, and defense - to destroy everyone in their path.

With such a large frame, he still manages to evade the defender and scramble out of the pocket for the first down. Roethlisberger's success also comes from the fact that he has great receivers to pass to. Hines Ward, future Hall of Famer, is one of the toughest football players in the league. Mark Schlereth, NFL analyst, said that Ward was one of the only wide receivers in the league who was a football player, not a diva.

This season, Ward was able to catch 81 balls for 1,043 yards. Aside from the obvious receiving threat, Ward is one of the best blocking receivers in the league. This will pose a problem for Arizona's young defensive backs Rod Eric Hood and Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie.

His ability to contain the corners will help Willie Parker get to the outside and break off big runs. The Steelers' running game was in question when Willie Parker went down early in the season. However, solid play from backups Mewelde Moore helped bring back balance to the Steelers' offense.

Parker ran for 146 yards and scored two touchdowns against the Chargers in the divisional playoff game. Then we have the Steelers' infamous defense, who allowed a league best 237 yards per game, with only 156 yards through the air. In order to be the best defense in the league, they need great players.

Troy Polamalu is one of the best safeties in the game today. His nose for the ball enabled him to get seven interceptions this season. He is also one of the hardest hitters, having no regard for his own body. Ike Taylor and Deshea Townsend are solid cornerbacks, and may get burned by Larry Fitzgerald and Anquan Boldin of the Cardinals, but they will get help over the top with Polamalu.

The linebackers will also provide pressure on Kurt Warner, who will struggle getting the ball out with the blitz coming. Led by James Harrison, the Steelers' linebackers have always found a way to get to the opposing team's quarterback. The Cardinals haven't seen a defense like the Steelers. I don't think Edgerrin James will have the kind of game that he's had in prior weeks, nor will Tim Hightower.

The Steelers defense will put points on the board, and that will propel them to victory.

Illustration by Sylvia Armitstead
BASKETBALL: Central women still win-less in league

continued from page 12

round of these teams and hopefully catch some wins.”

The Jackets’ Alira Carpenter, senior guard, led all scorers with 26 points in the game, 16 coming in the first half. She was 9-16 from the field, all four of the three-pointers on her team, going 4-9.

On Saturday, Jan. 24, the Wildcats dropped the game on the road as they lost to Saint Martin’s, 72-58, in Lacey at Marcus Pavilion.

The Wildcats fell to 3-13 overall and 0-5 in conference play after this recent loss. Saint Martin’s improved to 12-5 and 3-2 in conference play.

Hilary Tanneberg, senior center, scored in double digits again with 13 points.

The Wildcats matched Saint Martin’s basket-for-basket until the 14:55 mark. Saint Martin’s retaliated by scoring 13 of the next 15 points to go up by 11.

The Wildcats cut the deficit to four with 3:48 to go in the first half but still trailed 35-27 at half time.

The Wildcats improved their shooting in the second half, shooting 40 percent, with only eight turnovers. But it wasn’t enough, as they could not come within less than four points.

The Wildcats trailed just 37-33 with 16:48 left in the game, but eventually saw a seven-point differential reach double digits with six minutes remaining.

The Wildcats never came closer than 12 points down the rest of the way.

Stephanie Wenke, senior point guard, hit a three-pointer with two seconds remaining for the last points of the game.

Tanneberg and Tanna Radtke, senior guard, were the two Wildcats that scored in double figures.

Radtke had 11 points and shot 5 of 8 from the field. The Wildcats shot 37.5 percent from the field as a team.

The Wildcats will now be coming home to face rival Western Washington on Saturday, Jan. 31. This will be the second time in 16 days that the Wildcats will face the Vikings, losing to them 72-60 on Jan. 15.

The game will tip off at 7 p.m. at Nicholson Pavilion.

FOOTBALL: Reilly, Bronson ready for future NFL draft

continued from page 12

for 3,706 yards with 37 touchdows and only six interceptions, and completed 65.2 percent of his passes.

Reilly is predicted to go 126th in the NFL draft, according to scout.com.

Bronson is predicted to go 220 in the draft.

“We hope for the best for Reilly and Bronson for the upcoming draft,” Bennett said.

Along with Wenke, Senior Guard/Forward Nicole Jordan and Freshman Guard/Foward Sophie Russell contributed with seven points each off the bench.

Dara Zack, Saint Martin’s sophomore forward, was 8-11 from the field with a game high of 22 points. She also added six rebounds and was 5-6 from the free throw line.

Saint Martin’s leading rebounder was Krissy Bassett, junior forward, with eight.

The Saints’ backcourt was balanced as Roni Jo Mielke, sophomore guard, had 17 points, seven assists, and six rebounds.

Central will now be coming home to face rival Western Washington on Saturday, Jan. 31. This will be the second time in 16 days that the Wildcats will face the Vikings, losing to them 72-60 on Jan. 15.

The game will tip off at 7 p.m. at Nicholson Pavilion.

The two schools come from British Columbia, Canada. The first is Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia respectively.

“I think if we can add Simon Fraser and University of British Columbia it sets us up for a nice six-team league and looking to add a seventh or eighth as soon as possible,” Bennett said.

The other two schools are Southern Oregon and a University from Phoenix, Arizona.

Central is hoping the GNAC approves these two schools. Both schools are not in the United States and according to the GNAC, schools have to be in America in order to join.
Bob Hall

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